

SOUTHAMPTON UFO GROUP

12 Years of Investigation

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CHECK US OUT AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE :

<http://www.sufog.freemove.co.uk>

Hi folks... Another two months have gone by and we have had the odd UFO report coming into central command... But hey, I hear ET is hiding in our magazine. First person to spot him write the page number down and send it to me on a post card wins a SUFOG mystery prize... No this is not a winded up... Here is a clue... So if you spot him, answers on the back of a postcard and there is a clue in the picture...

Well, the last 2 months since the last magazine has seen a bit of activity for SUFOG... I was interviewed on BBC Radio Solent (Page 3) and we have had a number of UFO sightings reported to us and reported to other UFO groups that I accidentally stumbled over. The crop circle formations in Hampshire have been very few (Page 8 and 9) and they have not been that impressive. Also, August saw the groups annual pilgrimage to Avebury for a weekend of crop circle hunting and watching and our evening sky watch. Six group members (including me) managed to make it which was a bit disappointing, but, those that were there had a good time and we walked miles over open fields and up hills...!! I am

planning another weekend sky watch in the New Forest at the same location as of the 31st July (See Diary) and hopefully we will see the same 15 people there (in your winter woollies and thermal long johns!!!).

UFOlogy at the moment seems to be on the upturn again, but it is a very steep hill that UFOlogy has to climb if it is to survive. Groups, magazine and people come and do and we have lost some great people within the subject.

The Southampton UFO Group is starting to grow again with new members and new subscribers to the magazine. So, if we all pull together and put our heads together, then the group has a future, I but if we do not, then like others, we are facing a bleak future and possibly the end to the group...

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Alien message 'may be in our DNA'

Forget waiting for ET to call - the most likely place to find an alien message is in our DNA.

Professor Paul Davies, from the Australian Centre for Astrobiology at Macquarie University in Sydney, believes a cosmic greeting card could have been left in every human cell.

The coded message would only be discovered once the human race had the technology to read and understand it.

Writing in New Scientist magazine, Prof Davies said the idea should be considered seriously.

For more than 40 years astronomers have been sweeping the skies with radio telescopes hoping to catch a signal from an alien civilisation.

So far the search has been in vain. But Prof Davies believes it is wrong to assume that extraterrestrials who may be hundreds of millions of years ahead of us technologically will have chosen to communicate by radio.

Leaving artefacts for humans to find once they are sufficiently evolved - like the obelisk in the movie 2001: A Space Odyssey - might be a more attractive strategy, he said.

But ensuring the survival of such an artefact over possibly millions of years would be difficult.

A better solution would be to incorporate information into the human genome, allowing it to be copied and maintained over immense periods of time.

One way to do this might be to deliver alien viruses which could infect cells with message-laden DNA, said Prof Davies.

UFO Report - 24th July 2004.

I live in Warsash and at about 1:05 this morning, from my top floor window, I saw a UFO and it looked like it was hovering over the Fawley oil refinery. My house is high up, not too far from the shore at Warsash and the refinery is right across the water. This 'craft' wasn't the typical saucer shape, but it was really well lit up....by its own lights and I guess from the refinery. Have you had any other reports about this craft in the night?

I've made sketches of what I saw. I did attempt to get it on video, but when I returned from fetching the camera the craft had gone. It was such an amazing craft that I decided to get in the car and drive to the shore to see if it had just moved to a different area, that wasn't in my view from the house, but I couldn't see it.

Back in October 1998 I had another sighting between the Southampton Airport and Sainsbury's at Hedge End. Again, I've got a sketch of what I saw at about 4:20 that morning. That craft was 'more' of a saucer shape. Last summer I saw a flyer for the Southampton UFO Group at the food hut on the beach in Hamble and thought I must tell you about my 1998 sighting to see if others had seen it. Now with last night's events it's prompted me to get in touch.

I'd be more than happy to tell you more about these two sightings and show you the sketches.

**UFO Seen over Sholing, Southampton..
4th August 2004.**

UFO seen weds night in Sholing two guys I know saw it and it was being discussed the following day either TV or radio did any of you see a bright star like object that night speeding up an slowing down an darting off vertically they are embarrassed about it as they know people will not believe them, but I do as they are truthful guys an were together when they saw it, they watched it for around four mins.
(Email received 8th August 2004)

(Did anyone hear or see a report on the TV or Radio on the 5th August about the above report? (Steve Gerrard - Editor)

31st July - SUFOG Skywatch :
New Forest

When I collected Ernie and Davina, I had a few reservations... How many would turn up? How many will get lost?.. To my surprise, no one got lost and 15 people in total turned up... !! We had two young people (My son Phil, 13 yrs & another member brought his 8/9 yr old daughter)..

We set up our skywatch in the middle of the New Forest in a car park on the heath with a pre-made barbeque pit !!! Brilliant... We set up camp for the evening and the barbeque was set alight... The sky was lovely and clear and very warm... Then, 21.55 hrs it happened.. The shouts went out.. 'Look at that'... A large ball of white light 'appeared' in the sky and suddenly went upwards into the sky getting smaller and smaller until it disappeared into deep space. What could of this been.. We do not know.. A UFO... I think so and that set the night. There was a lot of fast moving objects that were sighted and a number of satellites crossed the sky... But none went straight up !!! We also did experiments with sounds playing in the back-group, and also we took photographs with some remarkable results (See additional page). We were photographing Orbs in a large number of our pictures and also the other odd anomaly. People drifted off after midnight due to commitments on Sunday morning and the majority of people stayed until around 1.30 a.m. One group member stayed until 5.30 a.m. before he headed home and reported no more further objects being seen. Around 1 a.m. we did have a visitation of a bright light at head height attached to the roof of a police car !!! The officer called a couple of times and was getting a cob on as no one replied I eventually went over and spoke to him and offered him a Burger, but he declined.

This was a great evening and I am planning to arrange another event in October to meet at 8 p.m. at the same location and we go to the same site and see what happens again... If you did not attend this skywatch, then why not come along to the one in October. (See Page 9)

Steve Gerrard (Chairman)

BBC RADIO SOLENT UFOS BROADCAST
July 2nd 2004.

I guess we all sat back on that date after being alerted by our founder and editor Steve Gerrard that this would be a TWO HOUR UFO Programme of speakers and a phone-in! Wow! It began with an introductory item twixt Steve and a lady presenter. Quite odd to hear our LEADER appearing to agree with certain hoary old suggestions that the problems of HOW UFO's got here with such vast space distances and how MAYBE.. just MAYBE.. some sightings could be earthly technology. It's dialogue I've heard Steve use before.. almost word for word. I queried this next day, and although I understood Steve's reasons, I wouldn't agree with them. The programme got under way after some twenty minutes of repartee between the presenters and began to say to myself; Ho hum...Two hours...THOUGHT it was too good to be true! We were introduced to Dr. Richard Lawrence...one of the Aetherius Society's top experts, I knew, and he was impressive in his grasp of the whole subject all the way through whatever his "religious" views. "Nick" was, we were told, head of the PUB UFO GROUP and aroused my suspicions immediately. It didn't take long for me to think "plant"! and when a right old dingdong developed twixt Nick and Richard Lawrence who was trying to give Nick the known details of Roswell while Nick just shouted out 'weather balloon' repeatedly. So it went on, deteriorating...complaints about Nick included,... phone ins answered.. mine was put hold when all I wanted to say was Richard Lawrence was speaking the truth and "Nick" wasn't.. he was totally ignorant. In the end time ran out just as I was hoping I could say my few words.. not before a lady from the Channel Islands electrified me..... and others, I hope,... 'because she appeared to be a genuine repeat abductee wanting to tell her story at last. A lost opportunity to put our case ..and I wonder WHY they chose the 6th of June?

Ernie Sears

SUFOG

Public Relations Officer

Hello To All: Ferne and I have been up to the Avebury and Alton Barnes Area and have experienced some wonderful crop circles in the area.

We started our journey with our motor home (an Elldis Nipper) which is basically a flat bed toy truck just a little longer than a Volkswagen bug with a shoebox on the back in which you sleep in. This shoebox has two beds just wide enough to sleep on if you don't roll over and just long enough for me (6ft) to lie in without doing the fetus position. A tiny kitchen in the back with a wash basin and a closet which is a whole 5" deep, and it will go 55mph downhill. But this shoebox gets over 40mpg, a very big plus when gasoline is over 5 dollars a gallon. I can lay lengthwise in the bed and then the kitchen is about 2 feet wide. So it is about 8 feet long not including the cabover under which the driver's area is. Anyway we made our way there on the A345 past Upavon, a collection of thatched buildings and Pewsey. Just north of Pewsey you can turn on most any road and it will eventually lead to Alton Barnes. Of course, as a croppie, you know that the Barge Pub in Alton Barnes is actually in Honeystreet just south of the village. We went there and went straight into the backroom where the crop circles of this and previous years are displayed by unknown persons. Unknown in that if you decide to ask any of the bar personnel about the circles you probably will get a vacant stare and be told that all the information to be had is on the board. Luckily we asked some of the people in the backroom how to get to the circle just across the canal north of the pub. We have found that in previous years the place to go is the Crop Circle Café.

We took the advice of the patron and went to the west to the next bridge and then doubled back on the other side of the canal to see a marvelous circle with six swirled arms ending in circles. Very beautiful and from the air perfectly made. There is a site on the net in which someone has drawn a mockup of circles that you would have to lay out in order to actually make this work of art. There are so many points to be found on the ground and in the dark that it may well be nearly impossible to make on without a lot of mistakes. This is my opinion after seeing several of these circles, how many crews of men would it take to make each one in

the dark and no mistakes and within the hours of darkness? Not enough time and light and not enough people are available in my opinion. Plus it would all be for the fun of it, mad artists working in the dark with their planks and measuring tapes. How many mad artists are out there capable of working together in a crew in the dark and with a prodigious amount of work to do for no money? This is the Honeystreet Formation as named on the net. Quite memorable and another in my list of inexplicable evidence.

These circles are amazing and quite a treat to be there in person. Anyone who has had high school geometry will know how difficult it is to lay a design on paper much less on a field almost 100 yards wide. Before leaving each circle I try and do some quiet time and meditate upon the vibration of the circle with the help of some space music. Yes it does put you in to an altered state and you realize just how beautiful each stalk of grain with all its seeds truly is and how unique and the same we all are. A precious planet full of life and mysterious energies and blueprints at work that has made us what we are in the physical and in spirit. Yes mankind needs to evolve and I asked my higher nature to let me evolve in awareness. This is the kind of thing you do here in these temporary temples, as they say, because they are genuine evidence of powers beyond our understanding.

We walk back to the van and go the Red Lion in Avebury. We arrive just in time because the pub is actually serving food now. One of the first things I have learned in England is that you must get to the food when they decide to serve it and they don't serve it when you want it. Yes the food was bad as expected and standing in line obligatory. Food here is overpriced at restaurants, pubs usually are better. Takeaway is the way to go as at least you are not getting stung on the price. "Chippies" sell Chips, pea fritters, pineapple fritters, fish, burgers, pickled eggs. Just don't ask for a salad anywhere and don't expect much flavor unless you

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Southampton UFO Group

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*** BY-MONTHLY ****

go to an Indian restaurant. Potato salad here tastes acidic for some reason and coleslaw has raw onions in it with the same acidic taste.

We camped on a hilltop just above the crop circle in East Field, which is a Tesla theme. Gee the aliens are certainly up on our history. They probably gave him the ideas for ac power, radio, Tesla coil, and time travel and free energy. We parked for free here and unfortunately skywatching was out because the sky was misty. The next day we hiked over Milk Hill past Adams Grave to the next crop circle. We noticed in the afternoon that some Gypsies pulled into the lot with their Gypsy van pulled with horses. They were living there now after we left. There was another group next to the Sanctuary just south of Avebury Stone Circle.

We went to the Crop Circle Café on the road to Calne next. Waited for several minutes for the owner to pull up and open the café. This is the woman who last year felt like throwing in the towel and just could not handle running the business. She was still there, but with two helpers this time. We arrived and Ferne went in, the woman was crying and proclaiming that she could not do it anymore. I guess it happened at the right time because my angel Ferne was there for comfort. She said what she could to alleviate and inspire. The woman said that she remembered us from last year because we gave her a tape of a beautiful mountain (Mt Adams) and UFO ranch. You see there is no justice in this world. She had really good honestly made food at reasonable prices and she was complaining that there were not enough customers to keep her open. Sad really. And this is the café for the crop circle crowd, just for them. They could not care less at the Barge and The Red lion, lower consciousness to boot. A baked potato at the Barge was the same price as one of the dinners at the Crop Circle Café! No justice at all. We wished her well and may follow up with some help. The planet needs to evolve as this café should have been full.

The next circle we went to was the next day below the White Horse on Milk Hill. The formation looks like a Bee or some type of insect or a figure with angel wings to some. It can be seen on the web as the Milk Hill Formation. This one is nearly four tram lines wide. The difficulty in forming this formation is quite awesome as can be seen on photos on the net. Remember that you cannot make these circles by hand without finding several circles centers and

(Cont... Page 7)



Busty Taylor - Bails Out !!!!

Hi Sorry about delay, this was due to bad weather and people breaking the plane I fly, The last flight was 27 June. But, I have been up twice in the last few days making my total miles flown this year to about 1610 miles. As the Farmers predicted, new circles have arrived just right for the conferences. The placement of the circles even allow for car parking as well, some circles have been put just in the right place to make a perfect picture from the air, White horse Alton Barns, West Kennet long Barrow. The Windmill Hill circle near Avebury is about 700 feet long and the farmer is allowing people in with the money box by the gate.

I have decided that this will be my last year in the circles folks, I have been flying some 2000 miles a year for the last 19 years and not getting much back for the effort that I have been putting in, not even lectures. But, I have seen what I call GOOD circles out there on my last trip, about seven 8 -10 foot circles well away from the rest of the circles out there, I think the farmer will cut this anytime now.

I will Wright up my finale letter at the end of the crop circle season folks as to how the crop circle system works, it is going to be an eye opener I can tell you.

E.mail dated : 21st July 2004)

Southampton UFO Sighting

13th June 2004.

Reported to :

National UFO Reporting Centre (USA)

Time : 15:00 hrs

Location : Southampton (UK/England)

Shape : Cylinder

Duration : 20 Minutes

Silver grey tube shaped object spotted in skies over Southampton, Hampshire. One object sighted comprising a long cylindrical tube, silver grey in colour, moving slowly across the sky. The object turned vertically and climbed before returning to a horizontal position. It then turned again and climbed through light cloud cover and eventually disappeared from view. It was a clear day and we managed to capture the object on film, circa 5 shots, with a digital camera.

Background of observers : A System Migration Manager (Engineering and an Assistant to a Marketing Director.

(So, there you have it SUFOG members... A UFO sighting over Southampton and yet it is reported to a UFO group in America. This begs a number of questions :

1. Why was it reported to an American group?
2. Who is going to investigate the sighting?
3. Where are the photographs going to appear (5 images)?
4. Why was it not reported to the Southampton UFO Group?

This is not the first case reported to NUFORC in America. I did contact them in the past and asked if ANY sightings reported in Hampshire, England was reported to them, please forward copy to us and we would investigate it. So much for inter-group co-operation.

(Steve Gerrard - Editor)

Sightings from the past over Hampshire.

The following reports were taken from the BUFORA Journal...

1. Date Unknown : Cosham : Silvery-grey disc.
2. Date Unknown : Southbourne : Cigar.
3. 4th April 1976 : Cosham : 2230 : Bright Star-Like.
4. 4th April 1967 : Cosham : 2235 : Bright Star-Like.
5. Date Unknown : Horndean : 2300 : Elongated Oval.
6. 13th November 1977 : Winchester : 1725 : Glowing Circle.
7. 1956 : Millbrook (Southampton) : Daytime : Spinning Object.
8. 27th August 1978 : 4 am : Liphook : Huge Greyish with bi-lobed light.
9. 28th September 1974 : 2330 : Hursley : No Description.
10. 5th September 1974 : 2225 : Portsmouth : No Description.
11. September 1971 : 1800 : Fareham : Glowing Cigar.
12. 1974 : Cove (Farnborough) : 6.10 am : Discoid with square windows.
13. 14th November 1976 : Milton (Portsmouth) : 7.10 am : Glowing Cigar.
14. 1977 : Milton (Portsmouth) : 1500 : Silver Cigar.

I hope to bring you more sightings and reports once I have waded through the magazines that I have. I think it is good that we should also not forget the sightings from the past and maybe study them and see if there is a pattern. Are there more disc being reported, are the times of the sightings more during the day or night and the locations of the sightings. Are there more sightings over Portsmouth where there is a Navy Base and a top secret listening station perched onto of Portsdown Hill, than over say the New Forest with a population of about 1,000 horses and cattle and about 20 people. Who knows. Maybe I will get round to this one day.

(Steve Gerrard - Editor)

choreographed beforehand (first point second, third, etc) in order and precisely made or it will show in the final view from the air. To form an arc you must use a string from a center as a guide to make the shapes and the centers for these circles are quite difficult to find accurately, especially in the dark and do all the work in one night. Would take many people undetected.

We met some interesting people while in the circle. We meet one couple from Florida, the lady an American, the man English. "Where are you from" she asks. I notice that she talks very much like me. "Oregon" I say and then realize that is thousands of miles away from where they live, but we talk very similarly. Another couple enters the circle "What are you doing here in this circle" he asks as I listen to space music on my boombox. I find out that he is from Olympia Washington; he is amazed that I travel over here for so many months of the year. How do you do it? They are, lo and behold, Kucinich supporters! Vegetarians! Activists! Wow these crop circles are like magnets to truth seekers. The next couple is English and I converse with the lady for a few minutes and find out that the dedicated photographer is Steve Alexander of crop circle photography fame. He had a very long pole that he attached his camera to elevate it above the circle to get the good shot. They produce the crop circle annuals for sale around the world. Steve says that he does not mind people being in the photos because they add perspective, so we continue to sit there while he snaps more shots.

We had a great time and more to come before I have to go back to Oregon and try and scratch out a living in the Bush economy. I am hoping that things will somehow be different when I arrive back there but I know there is much work to be done and my stay on the golden isle is about half over. Bye for now..

Bill Coones

Letter from group member.**D. Reynolds.****26th June 2004.**

Having just read my latest copy of the SUFOG magazine (No. 163/164), which I always read avidly from cover to cover, one article that stood out in this issue was : 'The History of Einstein's Unified Field Theory', contributed by group member Roger Anderton. I thought on reading that it could go over the top of my head. But, I was surprised to find it both interesting and absorbing. I would like to say well done Roger, for all the research into a very complicated subject.

Davina (SUFOG member)



27th June 2004 (Above)

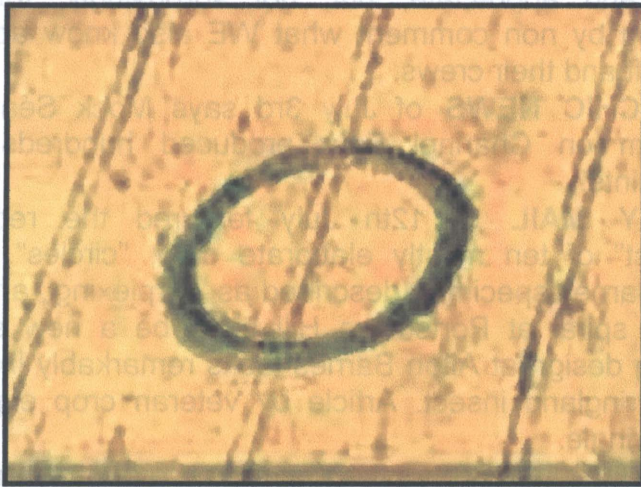


Crop Circle Formation in Hampshire :
Portsdown Hill, Portsmouth (19th June)

The above image is of a crop circle formation only 15 miles from my home address, but SUFOG has not been

informed... The formation is of 2 circles of 'coiled' snakes (Easiest way of describing them). As for the formation at the top of the page, all I know is that it has appeared in Hampshire, somewhere? (busty-taylor.com) Images from Busty Taylors Web Site.

First Crop Circle Formation of 2004...
Telegraph Hill, Near Winchester, Hampshire.



Well Folks, it has happened again... Hampshire appears to be the first county to register a crop circle formation. What is so special about this part of the world? Mind you, it is not very spectacular and in fact looks very amateurish... A single, plain circle... More like someone having a laugh and could only manage walking around in a circle and no more. A hoax, probably, a UFO landing sight highly unlikely, a vortex of spinning air, highly unlikely... ET's calling card... If you believe that, well you will believe anything... Not this one folks..

The Sunday Mail - Scotland

15th August 2004.

http://www.sundaymail.co.uk/news/tm_objectid=14532139%26method=full%26siteid=86024%26headline=%2dpound%2d850m%2dufo%2dsite%2ding-name_page.html

UFO fans have bought a 150 acre site for the world's first alien theme park. The £850 million attraction will be at Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire, famous for UFO sightings.

SUFOG DIARY - 2004..

Sept 15th - Group Meeting

September 18th / 19th :
SUFOG Sky Watch..

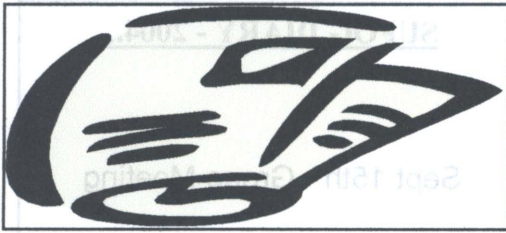
Due to the success of our July skywatch, we are holding another one at the same location, times etc. Meet at the same location (Beaulea Road Hotel/Inn) for around 7.30 p.m. A Disposable BBQ will be provided so bring along any burgers or food you wish to eat and we will provide the heat..

October 20th - Group Meeting

November 17th :
Group
Meeting

December 15th :
Group Christmas Meeting..
(Please bring along some nibbles etc to share as this will be our Christmas party).

Please contact the Editor before the above dates to confirm that the Sky Watch / Meeting are still going ahead. This is because Sky Watch's are likely to be cancelled / changed due to weather conditions, and other commitments that the editor is not aware of at the time of publication of the newsletter..



NEWSPAPER REVIEWS
BY ERNIE STEARS.

DAILY MAIL June 22nd had a two page article on the late Montague Keen who had just passed away then with the eye catching headline "With his dying breath. this man vowed to prove the existence, of the afterlife from beyond the grave. BUNKUM? A top academic believes he succeeded.....and that this very article is part of the proof" I knew Montague Keen slightly, via correspondence, concerning his evaluation after lengthy experience he had with THE SCOPE EXPERIMENT via the book which I had bought, concerning decades of experiments by a team of spiritualists claiming contact with the "dead". I found NONE of those claims surprising having my own experiences to fall back on. Keen's dying words to his wife Veronica swore he'd be in touch . And so it was...via worldwide mediums who passed on messages to Veronica the contents of which Keen had left with his wife and her alone.

A July 04 **FHM** is not a publication I'm familiar with but someone passed on an article by on "ET Fancier" as it says....Ian Morison headed by "The Alien Hunter". Interviewed by John Cantrle. one can sum the interview with the words therein, Question; When are you expecting to make contact?" Answer; Around 2020. I've £100

bet on it!' A leading SETI observer in the UK, Morison comes up with the same old reasons that we know about and appreciate, but, not surprisingly, totally rejecting by non comment what WE also know about the craft and their crews.

PSYCHIC NEWS of July 3rd says Mock Séance Program on Channel Four produced hundreds of complaints!

DAILY MAIL of 12th July featured the recent "harvest" of ten mostly elaborate crop, "circles". An Alton Barnes specimen described as 'perplexing', and a double spiral at Portsdown Hill must be a new site. Striking design at Alton Barnes looks remarkably like a Beth Pringland insect. Article by veteran crop expert Lucy Pringle.

DAILY EXPRESS of JULY 21st had a two pager by UFO author Nick Redfern spotlighting ex hoaxer Matthew Williams who ceased his hoaxing "experiment" in 2000 after being caught and fined! Make what you will of Williams' claim that he, and others, are "inspired by glowing orbs" that "traverse formations". One point puzzles me. Matthews claims he begins designs by walking along the "tramlines" so as not to damage standing crops.., most of us do the same. THEN he goes on to "trample" the crops in his chosen "design"? Mmmm! Is the "jury" still out?

PSYCHIC NEWS for July 17th says "near death experiences can't be explained away".. Nurse Penny Sartori in her intensive therapy unit after painstaking research at Morristons Swansea Hospital. Penny is also a Phd student in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Wales. Her five year research banished the "solutions" by others involving drugs, hallucinations. All this ties in with the NDE survey being carried out in connection with our own Cardiac Unit at Southampton General, some of which I've knowledge of and indeed I have corresponded with two well known specialists and met them on their own ground.

THE DAILY EXPRESS of the 22nd July heads an article by Geoff Maynard with "Aliens will contact us in 20 years. The only problem is.. it will take us 200 years to reply". This gem comes from Seth Shostak, the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California. SETI is due to get a "bank" of super scopes, all looking for life in space. Having read about Shostak in a previous UFO MAGAZINE I wasn't impressed THEN and nothing has changed.. I regard it all as an insult, in essence, to all of US whose lives have TOTALLY and UTTERLY changed.. mostly, and hopefully, for the better! Although I personally know of others, one in particular, who was WITH ME on one encounter on THREE

occasions in 1978 and who will NOT discuss it but has suffered from recurrent nightmares.. all similar in content.. ever since. Offers of HELP refused.

THE DAILY MAIL Of August 9th ran a fair sized article on "Angels".. Divine Inspiration? it asks. TV documentary maker Joanna Crosse has believed in angels for 15 years and goes on to tell us how this came about. When she found a book that "caught her eye"" in a shop she began to practice the advice on how to connect "angels". She quotes successful incidents.. one that made me smile was asking for a parking space when one looked impossible! Only today.. the 14th August 04..a trip to nearby Hamble discussing with my driver where we'd HAVE to park on a busy Saturday. We tried the first one as we entered Hamble.. no chance. The second one on Hamble Quay was jam packed.. as we backed out to try the last one which lay up a steep hill my friend began backing around at an angle. I kept quiet apart from saying aloud and half jokingly' Oh, come, on, angel, my lady's heel, is too sore to walk back up that hill' Right in the corner, hidden by other cars was a space! I said "thanks" as we manoeuvred into it. This has happened time and time again since we BOTH "saw" a HUGE angel in my lounge as I was administering healing to my friend. I CRIED! Later I watched a Kilroy programme on "angels".. yes or no. A lady described seeing a HUGE angel enfolding her terminal cancerous husband in its "wings" as she passed by the lounge door where her husband lay. She shook her head in disbelief and went on to the kitchen where the vision sent her back to the lounge door to see the "angel" still there! She "apologised" and was "told"" it was helping her sick man to pass over. He did. She left the scene before then. Awesome, eh?

THE DAILY MAIL in the same issue (coincidence?) had a HUGE 350 foot crop formation that defied belief and fostered FACT! Up near Silbury Hill.. where I WOULD have been as I write this with our Steve and other SUFOG adherents had my INTEREST not flagged earlier! Maybe my

80th birthday in June has something to do with it. Maybe far to many late nights.. ALWAYS after midnight! My thoughts are with my colleagues. Anyway.. back to the crop masterpiece...which is claimed to have links with the Mayan calendar that warns we are due for extinction by 2012! Nothing would surprise me in today's violent world. Crop expert Steve Alexander says the formation would have taken days to finish the well sculptured design.. this one 'just turned up overnight'. Surely puts paid forever to the whirlwinds etc. And the planks of wood and ropes! I made sure our Steve got a copy but his only reaction was "Hmmm"! Further enquiry brought the word "hoaxes" and "not sure". Maybe his Avebury weekend will change his attitude!

PSYCHIC NEWS of August 14th brings all this to a close with a whole page on.. yes.. crop circles. By Kay Hunter, a quite interesting coverage of the whole history, since the first two in 1980, followed by more on the same farm.. then a wider spread elsewhere. UFO's, plasma vortexes, Jenny Randles, Pat Delgado, Colin Andrews, Dr. Meaden, Ian Mrzyglod, Cheesefoot Head, Goodworth Common....all names to sigh over with no solution in sight.. or is there? In my own MIND I am SURE being CONNECTED or linked with the formations sets up paranormal effects in peoples lives. MY friend who sat and laid in the formations for the first time some three or four years back found weird things going on in her home after that impossible in reality...but not in another! They continued when she moved...I witnessed a couple.. no. three. She is, not surprisingly, a formerly unaware abductee and much much more. Like me.. "funny dreams" were her earlier solutions!

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS or August 15th carried a full page on that 350 foot crop formation...see earlier info...and has convicted hoaxer Matthew Williams declaring 'with certainty' it's the work of pranksters. Says he knows of thirty crop hoaxers working in the Wiltshire area. Also says it took two days to complete which meant the culprits had to go back to complete it. Head of the Wiltshire Crop Study group Francine Blake, on the

same page, says it is 'impossible that the circle is man-made and that it appeared so suddenly, and the effect on the crops in the circle and the soil shows it was made in less than half a minute'. Gosport expert Steve Alexander was also adamant said it would take 'days' under cover of darkness although he is unsure of it's makers.

Unless anyone owns up we're left again with the enigma.. just as the one near Chilbolton some time ago. Did our SUFOG visitors to Avebury etc learn anymore on the 14th August?

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS for the same date carried a fair sized item from the paper's Editor Martin Townsend on ghosts. He quoted the old man walking up a country lane in front of his then girlfriend who suddenly vanished from their view. It wasn't until his lady asked 'where did he go?' that Martin realised the man had died a month or two previously. Martin wrote more on ghosts while affirming he didn't want to "explore" the subject or buy books on it or sit in on séances etc. As far as HE was concerned he and his companion BOTH saw the same apparition and finished the article by saying that the incident suggested that our "existence" if far too complicated and mysterious a process to be all over in the mere stopping of a heartbeat.

As I began to write this a friend phoned me and told me the story of a mutual friend living just up the road to me.. and a SUFOG member to boot.. who was woken up only last week by a very bright light going past her bedroom window accompanied by a quiet "motor" sound. She got up in time to see the enormous light but nothing to explain it. This has happened to her several times in the past witnessed by her husband too. He, too, again, last week, was working in the garage and heard footsteps in the room above although he KNEW the house was empty. The evening before he was upstairs and heard the front door shut and footsteps

moving around. It was late and he called downstairs to see if it was one of his sons who no longer lived there but sometimes dropped in. No answer so he went down to find the place empty. Nothing unique.. the home has a long history of paranormal happenings. I've witnessed one such in company with three other people. Might as well tell you of the lady in an apparently thirties style dress who I saw making for the front door of our sheltered complex one morning last week I was making for the rear fire entrance after collecting my newspapers from the nearby shop. Something made me feel "odd" about this lady so I got a move on so as to intercept her at the secured front door entrance..

I never saw her again. Looked all around, waited. Nothing. Members will know of my previous such encounters and of similar such witnessed by our manager and her partner here. See the closing paragraph on that SUNDAY EXPRESS Editor's article.

OK...end of epistle. If it's made you THINK, it wasn't wasted. If you're still a sceptic....and they're EVERYWHERE!....don't waste YOU time, MINE, or OTHERS! LISTEN to the EXPERIENCERS! Still that ever increasing doubt in your mind. Stand FIRM. UPON YOU, UPON US, depends our FUTURE!

Alternative CROP CIRCLE CAFE, Cherhill, on A4, full tasty meals, reasonable prices, takeaways, breakfasts, vegetarian, highly recommended. Tel; 07745345533..

Ernie Sears
SUFOG Public relations Officer...

Avebury 2004 - SUFOG Skywatch...

There is an extra couple of pages added to the newsletter to cover this event as so much happened that it needs more pages that the newsletter can spare. Please read and think about coming along to 2005 and support this event as those that stay at home are the losers, but those who get out and do it gain so much.



MAGAZINE REVIEWS
BY ERNIE SEARS.

Just FOUR this month.. only made that because my NEW BUFORA JOURNAL Spring \Summer issue dropped through my door this morning!

BUFORA JOURNAL : So I'll begin with that, which is the usual pocket sized kind with a nice cover that features an Adamski type circling our planet.. in this issue it tells us there's Telepathic Aliens,.. What Happened at Scoriton?.. All the Colours of Darkness...From Here and There.. a Festive Ghost Story (Mine!)... BUFORA's 40th Anniversary Conference.... Letters...and the Editorial by Steve Gamble. Malcolm Robinson and Judith Jaafar investigated alleged telepathic contacts with "greys" by a couple at Bromley...Judith sums it all up by making no comment or evaluation which. she says, 'sums it up' ! While, Brian Allan sums HIS opinion of The Colours of Darkness by suggesting what a number of contactees already believe, that so-called "aliens" originate and travel twixt parallel dimensions and this is where we must improve our "technology" in order to travel between the vast voids wherein the truths of mystics Teachings lie. Well said, Brian. Case reports

are found in From here to there. The Scoriton Mystery gets a good coverage by Norman Oliver who suggests the 1965 enigma isn't the "hoax" which I saw mentioned way back after I'd read the book by Eileen Buckle. Connections with the Mantell death were mooted. Also with the late George Adamski and reincarnation! The jury is still out? My December 27th 2003 "ghost" encounter gets exposure next. The 40th BUFORA Anniversary Conference makes interesting reading with items from various speakers there.

THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN for June 04 contains it's, usual mix of interesting "Down Under" and worldwide coverage with FIFTEEN articles including President Judith Magee's Editorial. A missing time incident. The Mexican Air-force intercept. Victorian, Tasmanian, and Queensland sightings. The Early Years.. 1950's, and 1960's. ALWAYS impressive since there were no alternatives to the sightings possible! An excellent production, by the Victorian UFO Research Society, PO Box 1043, Moorabbin, Victoria, 3189, Australia.

UPRI NEWSLETTER, Issue TWO, 2004, covers the Galway UFO Conference in depth and other Irish reports and media coverage. Padre Pio's miracle statue, UFO Updates, Ghosts on film, etc, Mars pictures, the Channel 4 "hoax" balloon, ('How the world was fooled!') apart from SUFOG and dozens of others! Much else.. not least a list of Issues from ONE 1999 up to issue ONE 2004 at a regular four per year and detailing contents made interesting reading. No cheques, postal orders, etc, for UPRI subs.. just 30 x 48 cent Irish stamps to PO Box 7041, Harmonstown, Dublin, 5. Or a years subscription, 15 euros, 15US dollars or £10 STERLING in notes ONLY!

THE UFO CRITICISM from JAPAN.. four pages in this June 2004 issue. Covers anomalies going back to prehistoric times, with those "dogus" or "dolls" artifacts wearing "goggles" and "space suits". Designed by "aliens"? Who knows? The four page magazine is not for sale but you can try 3-21-8-105 Soshigaya, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, 157-00772, Japan. Editor Junji Numakawa.

PHEW! That's it, then....
Ernie Sears
SUFOG Public Relations Officer.



**Cornwall UFO Research Group
Present their
8th Annual UFO Conference
Saturday 9th October 2004
Doors open at 9:30am
Truro College
College Road, Truro, Cornwall.**

Speakers arranged so far:
Matthew Hurley

UFOs through history, a pictorial account

David Phillips

Extracts from the T.I.P. Files, Warts and All!

Ann Andrews
Alien Abduction

Lucy Pringle
Crop Circles- What are they doing to us?

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Produced by **UFO MONITORS EAST KENT (UFOMEK), ENGLAND**

best regards,

Chris Rolfe - Keep watching the skies.

Tel 07951 200067

I am delighted to announce that we have confirmed a glittering array of speakers for the Living The Field Annual Conference 2004, to be held on 9th & 10th October 2004 in London.

The conference brings together the most impressive line-up of speakers we have yet assembled - and arguably one of the most impressive put together by anyone. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see and hear some of the world's leading physicists, psychics and spiritual pioneers - all in one insight-packed weekend. Living The Field 2004 features the greatest living scientist on brain research and developer of the holographic theory of the brain; two of the originators of the CIA-funded STARGATE remote viewing programme; the world's greatest researcher into near-death experiences, the world's authority on the psychic ability of plants; and one of the top researchers into psychic phenomenon.

Dr Edgar Mitchell, Dr Raymond Moody, Prof Stanley Krippner, Dr Karl H. Pribram, Cleve Backster, Lynne McTaggart

Out-of-body experiences - F Holmes 'Skip' Atwater

Remote viewing - Joe McMoneagle

Forecasting through dreams - Craig Webb

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The Independent Newspaper : 06 July 2004

Cereal entrepreneurs

Crop circles used to be the work of amateur pranksters. Now, flattening wheat fields is a lucrative commercial enterprise. Kate Burt meets the Circlemakers

Rod Dickinson clearly remembers the night he made his first crop circle. It was the summer of 1991, just months before the famous crop-circle hoaxing duo, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley, came out about their nocturnal wheat-flattening activities; a time when the nation was still gripped by the idea that aliens might feasibly have been parking up in fields at night, all over the southern English countryside.

"No one had really mooted the idea these things might have been man-made," says Dickinson, an artist, "as far as people were concerned, me included, there were definitely other possibilities; at least some unexplained natural phenomena. I was fascinated." So when a friend challenged Dickinson to join him in an illicit attempt to create their own crop circle, the pair found themselves on their knees in the middle of the night, with a not very elegant, not very round mess on their hands.

Thirteen years later, Dickinson has just completed what he estimates to be his 500th foray into the art of what's come to be known as "circle-making". This time, things were a little different. The medium was sand, not crops, and the ambitious formation replicated a photographic image that Dickinson and his circle-making partner, John Lundberg, 35, had spent several weeks translating into a series of co-ordinates on a computer-design programme. From this, they'd created complex numerical spreadsheets, filled with measurements, from which his team of 13 assistants worked. He'd also secured advance permission from the landowner; there was a four-strong BBC film crew to capture the work in progress; a helicopter booked so a photographer could capture the end result, and a PR. Oh yes and, this time, he and Lundberg got paid several thousand pounds for their efforts by the satellite channel UK TV Gold, who commissioned the piece to launch their new comedy season.

Last year, Dickinson and Lundberg

completed their most lucrative commission to date, for the American computer-chip company AMD. It involved making two "eco-paint" designs on grass in England and three across the States - one in sand, two in grass, all photographed by satellites. Thanks to the pair's slick, award-winning website (circlemakers.org), the business has snowballed since it was launched 10 years ago. They've also been booked by clients including Weetabix, O₂, *Big Brother*, Mitsubishi, and Thompson Holidays, and have just taken on a commission for the Japanese company, Hello Kitty. The budget for the *Big Brother* campaign was rumoured to have been a quarter of a million.

It all seems a long way from Dickinson's renegade circle-making debut. Whatever happened?

On that 1991 night, Dickinson left the mess, convinced that man-made crop circles were not a feasible option. Then, a few days later, he picked up a newspaper to discover that a crop-circle researcher was claiming that his clumsy creation was some kind of supernatural miracle. "After reading that," he explains, "I realised there was another dimension to crop circles, that they could be a catalyst for people's already established beliefs, beliefs they were projecting on to the fields. Interesting territory for an artist." Hence, he and fellow artist Lundberg, 35, a documentary-maker, collaboratively explored what was possible.

It's not just Circlemakers who are cashing in. Crop-circle researchers and believers are still doing a roaring trade in tours, talks and books - fakers like Circlemakers, they insist, are responsible for only a percentage of formations. In particular, the summer tourist trade in Wiltshire, particularly Avebury, which has the highest proliferation of formations, also benefits. "Around 85 to 90 per cent of our custom during the summer months is connected to crop circles," says Jo Smith, an information assistant at Avebury Tourist Centre, where there are maps, calendars, tours, books and other circle merchandise on offer.

Farmers are also well remunerated by the commercial turn the phenomenon has taken. "We did a formation for the *Daily Mail* in a wheat field in Avebury," recalls Dickinson, "and the paper paid the farmer £6,000 for the equivalent of around £100 worth of crops". Unsurprisingly, circlemaker-landowner relations owner. One farmer in the Stonehenge area is said to have made around £30,000 in four weeks after charging a couple of quid to tourists to visit circles that appeared on his farm.

But how does it feel to have a huge corporate logo slapped in the middle of your land? Very good, says a farmer paid £500 apiece for two fields to be used for Circlemakers' jobs. "If they'd been put in by an alien and I hadn't been paid, I'd have been hopping mad."

Rob Irving, 47, also an artist and a satellite member of Circlemakers was one of the first fakers to see the commercial potential in crop circles. "Well before Circlemakers existed," he explains, "a friend and I called ourselves Circumcereal Ltd and put an ad in the paper announcing that we were available for weddings and Bar Mitzvahs. A bunch of hippies paid us £250 for a formation in a field of thistles for their friend's birthday."

With all marketing trends, particularly those that exploit a cultural phenomenon, there is a risk of burning out the original medium. Sam Conniff, director of Livity, a creative-communications agency, assesses the risk: "If a company like Circlemakers is to survive, they will need to diversify - the less cool the brands commissioning them become, the more they'll need to offer. It's about turning your fad into an industry. Next they may start doing stone carvings, topiary, hillside formations; they could easily settle into a company known for shaping ambient brand messages into natural environments. If Cunning Stunts, the firm who projected Gail Porter's backside on to the Houses of Parliament, had stuck solely with projections they'd have been stuffed. Instead they branched out and began to think of alternative stunts, like floating icebergs down the Thames for Smirnoff."

It's hard to see the connection between all this corporate speak and the mavericks who once spawned front pages claiming that aliens had landed. Don't Dickinson and Lundberg feel they're selling out?

"Is that possible with circle-making?" says Lundberg. "Part of the point for me is to try to keep the crop-circle phenomenon in the public awareness. Plus, I used to run my own design company, so I have no qualms about working for corporations. If someone offers you loads of money to do something you enjoy what are you going to say?"

Lundberg argues that he and Dickinson are simply putting the skills they developed to commercial use. They are "second generation" circlemakers, he explains - the first generation being Doug Bower and Dave Chorley, the two Hampshire watercolour artists who spent 14 years perpetrating one of the most effective, elaborate and brilliant hoaxes of the 20th century. "We're more an art collective," continues Lundberg. Indeed, around 10 years ago Dickinson's old flatmate Gavin Turk, a one-time dabbler in circle-making himself, put the pair together for an exhibition focussing on mythologies, satanic cults and folklore. "There's always been a very strong artistic tradition in the circle-making fraternity." Bower and Chorley, he says, took inspiration for their crop circles from abstract and surrealist artists.

Absolute rubbish, says Bower, now 80, and slightly irritable about still being asked about crop circles. "The artistic side didn't appeal at all," he says, "it was purely about making it look as if a UFO had landed. Simple as that. When we went public [in September 1991] we thought that'd be the end of it. And it should have been. Trouble is, everyone else wanted to get in on the act, people wanted the publicity."

Bower is unimpressed by the technological developments of which Lundberg and Dickinson are so proud. The simplicity was part of the mystery: "The ones we created were nothing like the ones you see today. We just used planks and bits of rope."

He had no idea crop circles were being used for advertising purposes: "First I've heard of it," he says, "but it doesn't

surprise me. It all goes to show the way people think these days - they're not satisfied with just having a laugh like we were."

The Sunday Telegraph 25th July 2004...

The fellowship of the rings

"It makes me chuckle sometimes," says John Lundberg, gazing across a wheat field in central England. "If somebody had said to me 10 years ago that today I'd be flying all over the world making crop circles for big companies and being paid for it, I'd have said they were mad."

This is a deeply disturbing statement. Crop circles, as we all know, are supposed to be made by little green men from outer space. They arrive in flying saucers, make intricate patterns in wheat fields and then go home to Planet Zog, leaving us simple earthlings to argue over what it all means.

Mr Lundberg is certainly a man, but he is neither little nor green and his preferred means of transport is a bicycle, not a spaceship. Yet he admits, freely and without a trace of smugness, that he and his partners, Rod Dickinson and Wil Russell, not only create crop circles but are making lots of money from them. They are three men sorting out the wheat from the cash, with not a UFO in sight. The only green men to be found are those who envy the circle-makers' ability to exploit their artistic talents.

Mr Lundberg has been making crop circles for 13 years. For most of that time he has done it without a thought for profit, but in the past few years the commercial work, mostly advertising, has taken off.

The list of clients and commissions is impressive. Last year the team went to America to do a series of projects for AMD, a multibillion-pound computer-chip company. They created the eye logo for Big Brother, the "reality television" programme; a car-shaped pattern for a Mitsubishi publicity campaign; logos for the album covers of dance bands; advertisements for Orange, the mobile phone company; and an image of Dawn French, Steve Coogan and David Jason for a digital television company.

They have branched out from wheat fields and now also work on sand and grass. They recently won a commission for Hello Kitty to produce the face of the Japanese company's cartoon cat in a wheat field in Wiltshire, and are considering a project in Costa Rica.

The rewards for the crop circle entrepreneurs are high and growing. The AMD job was the group's most lucrative so far. Mr Lundberg is unwilling to give precise details, but says the contract was worth "tens of thousands of pounds". The budget for the Big Brother campaign was estimated to be £250,000, and for Orange's Wiltshire project about £100,000. "We are doing well," Mr Lundberg said. "We are all earning a very healthy living from crop circles."

Landowners are benefiting too, receiving payments - from the companies or circle-makers - for allowing their fields to be used for the work. The income easily covers the damage to crops, leaving farmers with a profit.

Richard Cowan, who farms 1,500 arable acres in Oxfordshire, has twice - last year and in 2002 - allowed Mr Lundberg's company to make crop circles on his land for Orange. He was unwilling to say how much he was paid, but another farmer, in Wiltshire, said that the going rate was "at least £500 for each circle and sometimes much more". Mr Cowan said that the circles had caused him to lose about £200 worth of crop, giving him a "decent profit" from the deal.

He would be "unhappy" if people crept on to his land at night to make crop circles - unless he was properly compensated. "Nobody wants damage to their crops, but the key thing is whether you are paid for it," he said. "I'm happy for my fields to be used as long as I know about it and I get compensation. I used to believe crop circles were made by aliens, but there's no money in aliens. It's much better this way. "Mr Lundberg, his partners and a dozen or so "satellite" circle-makers have not, however, abandoned their not-for-profit illicit

nocturnal forays into farmers' fields. His motive, he says, is not to prove that people who think crop circles are made by little green men, God or other "higher forces" are deluded souls. His aim is to "use art to perpetuate the mystery and the mythology about crop circles". He explains further: "We are creating beautiful shapes but also mystery, allowing people to experience the unexplained. That is why we never claim authorship of the circles, because that would break the mystery."

This is slightly confusing. He wants people to continue speculating about aliens, while he knows that it's all tosh? Not quite. "People have said they had mystical experiences at the circle sites, so it is possible that we are acting as a catalyst for those experiences, even though the circles are man-made," he says. "Who knows, maybe we are being guided by external forces?"

The crop circle patterns are designed on computers and the night-time raids are planned meticulously. The circle-makers go out in small teams, armed with diagrams, planks of wood with ropes looped through holes at either end - known as "stalk stompers" - and 100ft tape measures.

The team chooses its targets carefully, preferring fields with easy access and surrounded by higher ground so that its creations will be easily visible in daylight. The crops can be oilseed rape, barley or wheat, depending on the month. No torches are used; the diagrams are read by moonlight.

When their work is done they leave silently, taking care not to leave any signs of a human presence, knowing that their work will cause a stir and attract hundreds of visitors and the media the next day.

Unlike the lucrative commercial ventures carried out in daylight, the night raids irritate many farmers. The most recent crop circle appeared on Friday morning near Marlborough in Wiltshire, the county that spawns 80 per cent of Britain's crop circles. Yesterday the landowner was unavailable, but neighbours said that he was furious. "He had to get the combine harvester out and harvest a large area because he didn't

want hundreds of people pouring on to his land to look at the crop circle," one neighbour said. "He was incandescent with rage, calling the people who did it everything under the sun."

Relations between landowners and croppies" can be strained, and in an attempt to defuse the tension the National Farmers Union has drawn up a code of conduct with the Centre for Crop Circle Studies. This includes advice such as: do not go on to private land without permission from the farmer or landowner; leave a calling card with your name and address; cause as little damage to crops as possible; and do not smoke. Not all landowners are unhappy, however. Some enterprising farmers who wake up to find they have been "circled" make the most of it by charging visitors £1 or £2 to have a look. One Wiltshire farmer reportedly made £15,000 from a particularly elaborate crop circle in the 1990s.

The Country Landowners Association described the night raids by circle-makers as "rural graffiti", but supported the idea of circle-makers and farmers working together to generate income. "It's innovative, entrepreneurial and good for rural businesses," a spokesman said.

Crop circles have boosted tourism, particularly in Wiltshire, where they attract thousands of visitors from all over the world. The believers" are also doing well, with many of them busy writing books and speaking at conferences on the mysteries and mythology of the circles. This weekend there is a crop circles conference in Wiltshire.

The circles are included in tours of sacred sites and attract visitors from America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Ireland and continental Europe. The Barge Inn, a pub in the Vale of Pewsey, its walls covered with crop circle photographs and diagrams, has become a mecca for aficionados from all over the world.

Mr Lundberg denies that his move to commercial circle-making means that he and his fellow creators have "sold out". He says that illicit circle-making is his main passion, his true art. "If somebody comes along and offers me a lot of money to fly to America and make crop circles then that's fine," he says.

"I'm not ashamed of that. It may not be art, but it helps to pay for the stuff that is."

That stuff includes making documentaries about the paranormal, a subject Mr Lundberg finds fascinating. He also draws a distinction between his crop circle art - "to perpetuate the mythology" - and that of others who make circles solely to expose them as man-made.

One man in the other camp is Matthew Williams, from Bishops Cannings, Wiltshire, who in November 2000 became the first person to be prosecuted for circle-making. He was fined £40 with £100 costs by Kennet magistrates after admitting causing damage to crops at West Overton. He says his objective is to "demonstrate that no circle or effect is beyond human capabilities".

The crop circle phenomenon began in Britain in the late 1970s and Mr Lundberg and his team makes a sizeable contribution to the 70 or so a year that appear in counties including Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire during the crop circle "season" from April to September. About 250 are estimated to appear worldwide.

The "croppies", "cerealogists" or "researchers" - as circle enthusiasts are known - accept that some are man-made, but insist that many others are the work of "outside forces".

To them, the crop-makers are heretics, meddling with a mystical power. Many claim to have had spiritual experiences on the sites of the circles. Thousands visit them every year. Some claim to have witnessed crop circles being created in 10 seconds, with no human circle-maker in sight.

Colin Andrews, the author of the best-selling *Circular Evidence*, the first book on crop circles, published in 1989, said that he thought up to 90 per cent of all crop circles were probably man-made.

"The other 10 per cent are not, and that is very important," he says. "There is definitely something very odd going on. We don't know what it is, but I believe there is some higher force involved."

Mr Lundberg describes himself as "a second generation circle-maker", following in the footsteps of his hero Doug Bowers, the

watercolour artist who, with Dave Chorley, a fellow artist, started secretly making crop circles in Britain in the late 1970s. Mr Bowers was inspired by "a couple of crop circles blamed on UFOs" while he was living in Australia. The pair continued their hoaxes for 14 years before confessing their authorship to a shocked - and, in some quarters, disappointed - world in 1991.

Yesterday Mr Bowers, now 80, expressed surprise at the commercial turn taken by circle-makers. "We just wanted people to think that a UFO had landed in a field, when it was really just two blokes with a plank of wood. And it worked a treat.

"We'd make the crop circles and crowds would come to see them. We used to mingle with them and listen to what they were saying, all these so-called UFO experts spouting off about aliens. We would look at each and burst out laughing. "We did it for a laugh. Money - and even art - never came into it. Who would have thought it would come to this?"

NEW FOREST SKYWATCH REPORT

31/07/04

When people ask me "Did you spot any UFO's on your skywatch then"? I have to reply "Only one really". But that one made it all worthwhile - read on for the full story.

It was a beautiful summers day on Saturday 31st July, the day chosen for the SUFOG skywatch in the New Forest. The meeting place was the car park of the Beaulieu Station Inn/Hotel. I had located it on the OS map 196 grid ref 351062 and set off around 4pm so I could have a good look around before meeting up with the group at 8pm. My leisurely drive from Shoreham in Sussex via the A272 took 2 hours and I spent about the same time again driving round looking for suitable places to skywatch from. I met up with the group at the appointed time tucked away in the beer garden. (the Inn car park entrance is to the left of the buildings, covered with trees and easily missed). Steve Gerrard suggested watching from an area called Yew Tree Heath. I was familiar with this place as it was

the best site I had found earlier in the afternoon. It was about a mile and a half down the road grid ref 365064, had a car park area and a raised earthwork type feature about ten feet high where we based ourselves and we had an uninterrupted view for about ten miles in a full 360 degree circle.

We arrived at the area around 9pm with a good turnout of about 12 people. Most people took folding chairs and we spaced ourselves around the top of the hillock so that we could see in all directions. Some stills pictures of the group were taken before the light faded completely and we were watching for the first stars to become visible. The moon was starting to rise over the horizon and was very full and bright. As it got darker, Steve noticed the appearance of what looked like 2 inch diameter orbs on some of his flashed stills pictures. This was repeated by myself and others. These orbs could not be videoed easily, but replaying my tape taken in infra-red once home, one crosses the screen in 5 frames (there are 20 frames per second). The only possible explanation I have is that they were moths flying by. But then I would have thought that a flash picture (shutter speed 1/60 second?) would have 'frozen' the wings and they would not have appeared completely circular like they did.

Anyway, around 10pm, when people were milling around and chatting, and still settling down, someone yelled "Over there, big light". We all spun round to see this bright light in the sky, like a big bright star only five times brighter than any star in the sky, and much lower. As we caught sight of it, we could see it was moving directly upwards at a fair speed and within a few seconds it had dimmed to a dot and disappeared from sight completely. It all happened so quickly that nobody had time to capture it on videotape. No one could offer a rational explanation for what we had all just seen but Steve said virtually the same thing was witnessed during last years skywatch at Avebury.

Following this, apart from the odd pack of bewildered passing boy scouts around midnight and then a visit from pc "oy, one of you lot come here" Plod, in his motor, there were just explainable sightings such as commercial aircraft - although these can

sometimes have you wondering in the early stages before you can make out their profile through binoculars, plenty of satellites gliding past high up and the occasional shooting star. People started to drift off from about 12.30 and by 1.30 I was the only one left. I had intended to stay all night anyway and had warm clothes, a stove to make coffee and some food. I sat by the small BBQ fire with camcorder in hand but nothing else notable occurred, and I left the site when it got light at 5.30am.

I had a thoroughly good time and would recommend a skywatch to anyone. Thanks to Steve for organising the event and I look forward to attending the next SUFOG skywatch on Sat 14th August in Avebury, meet at the 'Barge' pub 12 noon.

Mark Easen.



Mystery Orb

SUFOG Skywatch 31st July
2004